

Hillsboro City Council Meeting
December 8, 2009

Mayor Baran called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Roll call was taken and those present were Mayor Baran and Commissioners Trost, Hill and Sherer.

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Commissioner Hill asked that the Council revisit the issue of perks for volunteers in January. Commissioner Hill stated volunteers give up a lot of their free time for very little compensation.

Commissioner Trost thanked Beverly McCoy for the extra work done to complete the payment on the recent reissuing of bonds. Commissioner Trost also requested the Council review the closed session minutes early next year.

Mayor Baran asked Commissioner Sherer to work with the City Attorney on establishing a video gaming ordinance to be addressed in January. Mayor Baran informed everyone that work was progressing on the rail spur.

City Attorney Cullen reported to the Council that he had not been able to make contact this past week with the bank holding the mortgage on the "Chances" building. When contact is made an appointment will be set up to meet in person and find out what it would take to get the building where it could be sold or repaired.

City Engineer Hunt reported water and sewer permit applications for the Deer Run mine have been submitted to the IEPA. Hunt stated there is still a need for a Certificate of Insurance involving the rail project and that the first payment needs to be paid to the contractor. The permits have been received from IDOT for boring under the highway with the water and sewer lines to the mine.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve payment of this month's bills in the amount of \$221,162.35. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve **Ordinance #1507** allowing for \$777,946.00 for this year's tax levy. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve the expenditure of \$1910.00 for new drain covers at the Central Park kiddie pool to comply with new laws. Motion carried 4-0.

There was a brief discussion concerning the sale of City owned property at the north end of Glenn Shoals Lake.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Resolution 2009-12 allowing for the sale of surplus City owned property on Glenn Shoals Lake. The sale would be to Joseph Ritchie for the appraised amount of \$4,295.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Trost informed the Council of the need to renew the present line of credit which the City has with Hillsboro National Bank to help cover State shortfalls.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to renew the current line of credit established with Hillsboro National Bank. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Hill presented the Council with papers explaining the need to continue with the current police vehicle replacement plan and the cost savings that could be seen by starting the bid process early this year.

The current plan is to purchase 1 SUV style vehicle, 2 quad cab pickups and one sedan.

Deputy Chief Stretch was present answering questions from the Council concerning the plan.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve advertising for bids for 4 new police vehicles. Motion carried 4-0.

City Engineer Hunt asked the Council to consider approval of Plocher Construction's final pay request on the new water plant based on the Engineers' review. Due to this being the last meeting of the year it could permit Plocher to be paid yet this calendar year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve the final pay request of \$100,000 to Plocher Construction upon satisfying the requirements of the City Engineers and Commissioner McCammack. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Change Order #3 involving the new rail spur. The changes were the removal of unsuitable fill material from the west end of the spur, abandonment of the existing storm sewer and the installation of 680 feet of 18" storm sewer. The total cost would be \$114,422.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Trost informed the Council of a request for a revolving fund loan from Jeff Eisentraut. Mr. Eisentraut would like to use these funds along with funds from Hillsboro National Bank to purchase the Orpheum building.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to approve a Revolving Fund loan request from Jeff Eisentraut in the amount of \$19,000.00 for a term of ten years at 4% interest. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Trost and seconded by Commissioner Hill to award a \$50.00 Christmas bonus to all employees. Motion carried 4-0.

Roy Hertel presented the Council with a renewal contract for electricity from Direct Energy. Mr. Hertel explained that the rates fluctuate and to get the best price the Council should permit the Mayor to sign the contract as soon as this can be accomplished.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Trost to permit Mayor Baran to sign a one year contract with Direct Energy at the best available rates. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Sherer informed the Council of repairs that needed to be made at the historical Harkey House to minimize further water damage. Copies of an estimate had been presented to the Council for their review.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Holcomb Construction to make repairs at the Harkey House for a cost of \$5,350.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Hill requested the Council to go into closed session for a discussion on personnel.

Motion was made at 8:00 pm by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Sherer to go into closed session to discuss personnel as permitted by 5 ILCS 120/2(c) 1. Motion carried 4-0.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 9:00 pm with roll call. Those present were Mayor Baran and Commissioners Trost, Hill and Sherer.

There was no action taken concerning the “closed” session on personnel.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Sherer and seconded by Commissioner Trost. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Booher, City Clerk